WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

A [illegible] NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO THE [illegible] INTERESTS, AND ALL THE LEADING QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

PUBLISHED EVERY [illegible] MORNING.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

[illegible]

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OUR CHURCHES.

Denominational and Personal.

The Fourth Baptist Church, in this city, has called to its pastorate Rev. E. R. Stanwick, recently of Princeton, Ill. He has the reputation of being an earnest worker, and the call is encouraged to expect prosperity.

The Fifth Methodist Church, on second avenue, Sixth ward, received an accession of eighteen members last Sabbath. This is a new enterprise, only about four months old, it began with a Sabbath school, and a meeting for prayer, and has grown to its present size with Episcopal aid, similar to the Presbyterian conference. Rev. T. H. Gerrard, pastor.

The colored people of Brooklyn have secured a large, fine, stone edifice, recently built for a Congregational church, at a cost of $40,000. The building is to be dedicated about the first week in March.

Rev. Dr. Wm. W. Ware, late of the Presbytery of Erie, Ohio School has been received and installed by the Presbytery of Allegheny, as pastor of the church in Manchester. The services of installation were held on Tuesday evening, and were participated in by Dr. Hodge, Rev. Messrs. Allison and Hall. Mr. Ware's friends have entered upon a very encouraging field.

Rev. Henry Belfield, the Old School Presbyterian church at Independence, Pennsylvania of Allegheny, received by resolution of the Presbytery of Erie, on presbytery of Erie.

Rev. Wm. Ives, the New School Presbyterian minister, has received one hundred new members, in addition to the four hundred and fifty of the previous year. The new house has been formed, that of Kansas, and new Presbyteries have been formed in Nebraska. The church is united in battling forty-one forms of drinking during the next year.

The Rev. Dr. Cummings, pastor of the American Presbyterian church in Paris, states that the Scriptures have been translated into more than two hundred languages. This is the best answer that can be given to the infidel objection that God has left the bulk of mankind in darkness. Everybody accepts that Revelation as true which is translated into his own language. This is the best argument that can be used

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1869.

"GOOD FOR THE ENEMY."

Certain narrow minded persons have entertained the idea that the course of the Commercial on the extravagance at Harrisburg will injure the party by furnishing food for the opposition press. What has given the Republican party its power and vitality? Is it not because the party has aimed to secure and defend the best interests of the people by enforcing the immutable principles of justice in legislation, that it has taken such a powerful hold upon the masses, and is it not because its representatives have been pledged to a faithful and honest administration of the affairs of government—local, State and National—that it exhibits such remarkable vitality to-day? When the party ceases to be true to its principles, and just and honest in its dealings, its power will diminish and the days will soon be numbered. The Republican party is not charged with any abandonment of principle, and hence we have nothing to say on this point. As a party, however, we are unquestionably committed to a most rigid economy in the public expenditures, that the pressing burdens of taxation may be relieved. Having given it solemn pledge to the people that the party would exert its energies in retrenchment and reform, it fought the late political battles and won. Shall the pledges thus made be disregarded by those in power, or shall they be redeemed? In what direction is the duty point? Wherein consists the safety of the party? We hold that, whether under pledge or not, the administration of the Republican party depends upon the honesty and fidelity of its representatives to carry out the principles of economy and reform, to fought the late political battles and won. Shall the pledges thus made be disregarded by those in power, or shall they be redeemed? In what direction does

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STATE NEWS.

A correspondent of the *Erie Dispatch* says that only a most distance from Bill College in the county a mound of natural bone has been covered which, upon enquiring, is found to contain a large per cent. of lead, with another quantities of silver intermixed. The territory has been bought by a company in that vicinity for the purpose of mining operations in the spring. The ore is found in abundance, and the prospects look most encouraging.

The Cambria Iron Company recently purchased three locomotives for use on their section of railroads. Previously the Company had three in use. But three of the locomotives had been so worn as to require constant repairing and renewing, besides an army of engineers and oilers.

Jamestown has a sensation. A young man named Forbes, who is represented by a gentleman to be the greater portion of Cambria city. The people of that city are here thought are justly indignant at the conduct of Forbes in leaving his wife and children, as he is tremendous hater, and the result, it is prognosed, will be a fat job for the lawyers.

James Gibson, of East Bradford township, Chester county, went into the West Chester *Record* office, the other day, and paid the same against the mail while he was gone. A pocketbook was hanging on the little finger, which is a carpenter, and he put his thousands there. He then went to the postoffice, and, according to his own statement, was gone but a few minutes. On returning he found the pocketbook gone, and although he had a glimpse of one of the guilty, he is unable to identify him. The money was all in bills of large denomination.

Some time ago, while laboring in the dominion, I witnessed the "hook swinging festival." At the beginning of the festival, the priest of the temple sends the sacred hooks, and other things, to a person some days in advance of the festival, to be prepared for the ceremonies. On the morning of the festival, the priest commences the ceremonies by invoking the blessing of the gods. He then proceeds to the temple, and, taking up the hooks, and one by one, he runs them through the flesh of the back, and then through the flesh of the breast, and then through the flesh of the arms, and then through the flesh of the thighs, and then through the flesh of the calves of the legs

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1869.

TERMS.

REMUNERATIVE EXTRAVAGANCE.

We publish herewith the letter and speech of Hon. Solomon Wheaton in defense of the action of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, in fixing the number of officers of that body. The anxiety attending the attempt to conceal one act of the notoriously late bill to the exposure of the other. The bill for the payment of the Speaker's fees could not be lost sight of. No reader of the journal could permit himself to be misled or mystified by a one-sided explanation. We are gratified by getting at the truth, and it appears to be this. The Legislature met without fixed (by number of "officers" of the ensuing one (or two) House at thirty-four, exclusive of three to be pastors and folders, at $600 each, and two superintendents at $900 each, for the session, or $2,000 in all, in the place of $37,000 paid under this head last two years. This force, after the experience of nearly an entire session, the last Legislature decided was sufficient, but the present House, ignoring a supposition bill, before it had a day's experience, resolved to increase the number by adding twenty-seven, claiming that the preceding Legislature had no control over the matter, and that the law fixing the number at thirty-four, was void. This addition of twenty-seven increases the total force of the present House to sixty-one, or one "officer" to each Republican member. Ten of the increase are to be pastors and folders, or twenty in all, with pay reduced from $600 to $300, the total cost for pasting and folding being $11,000. The remaining seventeen of the "additional" twenty-seven, whose pay has not been reduced, have been appointed to another department in the House. Now it matters little which committee is larger, or under what head is the expense, so long as the aggregate is not reduced, and is too great. These sixty-one "officers" swine, let it be remembered, do not include pages, sweepers, firemen, etc., etc., must be paid, and we have see that only twenty of them are to be paid at the reduced rate of $900, the remaining forty-one at salaries ranging from $2,000 down to $900. Say the average of the whole is $1,000, which is less than it will be in the end, the total will be $61,000, or about the same as last year, when seventy-one knowledge-exercising officers gave no knowledge beyond measure. But all these main points and before these considerations have been lost sight of in the economizing attempted by the low of last winter, passed apparently to atone for the extravagance of that session, has been completely swallowed up in the fear lest of this, a matter not a particle better or "cheaper" are called. The extravagance is there to-day and is the question for great.

Mr. Wheaton says "there have been no contributions additional to grants at home." We simply call the attention of the reader across that a single Sergeant-at-Arms last session was paid the modest sum of $6,000 for "rounding up" witnesses in one case. As there are three of these cases this winter, and as several "officers" of this sort have been provided in advance, it looks as though the expenditure in this way would be large.

It will be perceived that the "additional officers" number twenty-seven, the original number being thirty-four. Why twenty-seven? Why not twenty-five or thirty? How did it happen that the first hour of the session it was perceived that this odd additional number twenty-seven, no more, no less, would suffice to do the work? We will supply the answer in the form of a suggestion. Our suggestion is, that when it came to thirty-four "officers" came to be divided between sixty-one members, it was found that the number would not go round. Twenty-seven members were still without a salary at their disposal. Two vacancies were broken as a consequence. To make the honors many twenty-seven were added to the force—in all, sixty-one, or one to each Republican member. Then every body was satisfied. Harmony and economy reigned. Mr. Wheaton does not tell us these things, but we do not think he will deny the entire accuracy of the explanation. The reader will see in what quarter the "necessity" in the case lay.

These are unwelcome things to write, but as an independent journalist, determined to do our share in the cause of economy and reform, and resolved to fight the battle squarely from the beginning, we must write and publish them, believing that to do so will be better for the Republican party which can and will reform its own abuses and prove itself entirely worthy of re-

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ECONOMY AT HARRISBURG.

A motion from Westmoreland county having moved that the printing of public documents, etc., be stopped and all the pastors and folders dismissed, the House, on motion of Mr. Baum, of Philadelphia, indefinitely postponed the question and adjourned from Friday till Tuesday.

We beg leave to suggest that the public know precisely the difference between meritorious and sincere, intelligent performance of duty. The motion of the member from Westmoreland, though foolish in itself, was hopeful than otherwise, and we prefer to regard the motion of Mr. Baum, and the vote thereon, not as conclusive as to what the House will ultimately do. That body has blundered and gone wrong somewhat, in fixing the number of its "officers," but we have hopes that it will get some right in this business. The Republican party, which is responsible for the management of the affairs of this State, are asking of Representatives in the Legislature nothing that conflicts with the rule which every honest and prudent man adopts in the management of his own affairs, to wit: the employment of the number of men—otherwise "officers"—absolutely necessary, and no more, at fair pay only. No spiteful spasm or unreasonable fit of economy, as would be the adoption of the motion of the Westmoreland member, is desired or expected. All the documents that are needed in session should be printed—no more. The number should be small or great, without reference to the State Printer's job. With all the legislation and expenditures graduated on this simple and only honest scale, the true expense to the State would be materially reduced.

We beg the Legislature to understand that there exists a lively public sentiment on this subject. We do not expect that the Democratic minority will respect it. Nor do they wish the Republican majority to respect it. On the contrary, they will do everything in their power to make matters as bad as they can be, to damage the Republican party. It is for the Republican representatives themselves to decide which party shall be benefited by the decision of the question under consideration. We have therefore that the Republicans at Harrisburg carry out in time in coming down squarely to the solid ground of economy, which means just as many "officers" as are needed and no more, and always at fair pay, and no expense or appropriation of any kind, for any object whatever, that can be dispensed with. In other words, let the stern rule of economy and honesty, which General Grant has announced his intention to apply to the management of Federal affairs, be allowed to.

The Republican party, to retain the confidence of the public, must put in practice the profession of economy and reform, and this must be done at once and thoroughly.

We are not disposed to accuse the Republicans at Harrisburg of anything worse than a disposition, perhaps a thoughtless disposition, to follow the example of Legislatures of former years. But the example is a bad one, and public sentiment is fast in condemning it. Law makers and officers who expend the public money, must economize in everything. Valueless must be driven from the Treasury. Extravagance in the use of the public funds is at all times immoral and unjust, but it becomes so at the present time, with this legacy of debt and taxation resting on the country. To lighten the burden should be the constant aim and inflexible purpose of those whose good fortune it is to be clothed with the power. Especially is it the homeless duty of Republicans. The present question is, will the Republican Legislature of Pennsylvania make the attempt?

JUDGE DAVIS CANDIDATE.

The *Gazette*, a semi-official journal, in describing a well-known American, yields itself up to the most ecstatic emotions. The object of the unmeasured admiration which fills upwards of a column in the Gazette has already been enshrined immortal by the song that is made up principally of Jane Brown's hails and sail, with some information to a sour apple tree. The *Gazette* should have given the prophecy contained in the song is fulfilled. Jane Brown in Paris and Jane Brown in politicals, are two entirely different men. In Paris we are informed—

> "Jane Brown spends millions, and he does expend
> Them like a man who knows the use of money;
> He moves in the highest circles of the land,
> And is the envy of the common people."

of this be true, we could find any "change of scene" that a similar softening of the

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GIVE THE SOLDIERS' ORPHANS A CHANCE.

We want to make a practical suggestion concerning the pasting and folding business at Harrisburg. Mr. Wilson gave it as that the pasting force consists of twenty men at $600, and two "superintendents" at $900 each. We will not stop to inquire whether this force is large or otherwise; but we contend that a great saving can be made and that the money can be thrown in a direction where it will be much more worthily bestowed than it now is on decayed politicians and pensioned hangers-on, who use more than they work, and use their position to corrupt legislation. Let them all be dismissed and their places filled with youngsters who will be glad to work the legislature term for $300 apiece, and who will do the work well. There will be no difficulty in finding them. Forty times the number required can be obtained from the list of soldiers' orphans, whose claim to this bounty is as far above the claim of those who usually get it as the heavens are above the earth. What say you, gentlemen, is not this a good suggestion? You may say that those men are scarce in and cannot be got out. Shame on the man who advances such a plea! Every office in the Legislature, not ordained in the constitution, can be abolished in an hour and the incumbents sent adrift. There is no obstacle but your will. Who will kindly propose this reform in the folding and pasting room, timely advance it, and at the very least get the ayes and nays on the proposition?

It is said that an organization has been formed to resist the confirmation of Secretary for the Revenue Division and Commissioner for the Revenue Department, between the heads of whom and the Johnsonites—including the Copperhead Senators from Kentucky and Delaware—a coalition has been effected into. It is a queer mixture, the Whisky Ring—who promise in the patent Commerce the very man they want—being conspicuous. Common feels for Commerce and Democrats for Sawyer, all intended in forestalling Grant in these selection. It will be provided that this is a strong team. On a motion in Executive session to commit Commerce to the Committee, which would have been adverse to him, the vote stood as follows:

[Table: Yeas—Messrs. Bayard, Buckalew, Chandler, Davis, Dixon, Doolittle, Fessenden, Fowler, Grimes, Hendricks, Johnson, Lane of Indiana, McCreery, Morgan, Morrill of Maine, Norton, Patterson of New Hampshire, Ramsey, Saulsbury, Sherman, Sprague, Tipton, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Vickers, Willey, Williams, Wilson—30. Nays—Messrs. Anthony, Cameron, Cattell, Conkling, Conness, Corbett, Cragin, Drake, Edmunds, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Harlan, Howard, Howe, Morrill of Vermont, Nye, Pomeroy, Ross, Stewart, Thayer, Wade, Warner, Whyte, Yates—26.]

Notwithstanding the strength of the coalition and the Ring, it is believed that the confirmation of Sawyer and Commerce will be prevented. How early successful Senator Cameron was on Friday in having Commerce confirmed may be inferred from the answer of a Western Senator to the inquiry why the opposition of the South affronted so early that day. "We affronted because we were afraid to trust ourselves in session any longer." Mr. Cameron made an unsuccessful attempt on Saturday to get the Senate to go into executive session, but failed by the vote

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THE WESTERN advocates of Free Trade argue that a tariff has a direct tendency to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. They endeavor to illustrate this in a few local ways, but nine tenths of their illustrations are borrowed from England. When our attention is confined to England we find that instead of benefiting the poor classes the trade, as conducted by the Government of Great Britain, imposes the greatest restrictions upon the poor. Land and property of all descriptions is gradually absorbed by the few. This is the view the Liberalists take of the subject. Protectionists, communists and trade societies are all based upon the theory that something must be done to check the accumulation of immense estates by the few, to the detriment of the mass. We do not indorse this view. We simply allude to it to show that the illustrations by free trade journals in this country are precisely the illustrations used by those Englishmen who favor protection. In all probability, were the great estates in England confiscated to-day, no less the land would prevent the rapid increase of the evil in the course of four or five generations.

As the treaty for the settlement of the Alabama claims becomes better known, its unmistakable ratification grows less probable. It is not what was supposed, from its representations, inspired. It is believed in Washington. Mr. Seward is known to be very anxious to have it ratified before he leaves the State Department, and is employing instrumentalities to create a good impression for it. There is a growing impression, however, that time had better be taken to examine the question, if no case it altogether to Grant's administration to manage. The President elect is known to have some pretty decided views on the general question, which it is believed, would not find a proper representative in Mr. Reverdy Johnson, in some, indeed, who was not for the Union from the outset to the close of the rebellion, or who would negotiate in any other belief than that the Alabama was a pirate, for whose acts the English government is responsible. We want a simple demand of payment, and a plain answer, yes or no. If yes, the rest would be simple and easy. If no—why, let Grant say why! Then this seems to be the drift of public opinion just now.

We are told that the expense of the state officers of the House of Representatives at the rate at which it is intended to fix their pay, will not go much over $40,000, in the place of about $80,000 last year. We prefer to be excused from *good intentions*. The last House set out with still better ones than these, and we have seen how it came out. As the thing is yet to be done we propose it shall be done with something like reason. Last year there was not good watching. We have seen that although the number of House officers at the opening was only forty-three, about one hundred were smuggled in and paid. A considerable part did nothing whatever except draw their pay. A goodly part of the same crew are lounging around the Capitol now. They had better leave or provide for their bills in some other way than out of the State Treasury. If we succeed in keeping the number this session down to sixty-one at proper pay, we shall be abundantly rewarded for our labor. But even this number should be reduced to where the opening of the session found it—thirty-four—officers at fair pay. Clear out the villers, and let the Capitol for once be on something like an honest footing. Who will assist?

THE journal of the last Pennsylvania House of Representatives shows that early in the Session the whole number of the officers for the Session was fixed at *forty three*. But at the close of the session the number paid was as nearly a round one hundred as could well be. Just before breaking up of the session, as if to atone for this sin, the Legislature passed a law restricting the number of House officers in future to thirty four, but about the first thing the present body did was to proclaim the law void, increase the number of officers to sixty one, and *agree* to reduce their salaries—which, however, is not yet done, and may not be. Where the number will yet go to, if the spirit of last winter is extant, we dare not predict. We intend that, if there is any virtue in public opinion, there shall be no increase but a decrease in the number, and that the pay shall be fixed on the right principle of genuine retrenchment. Gentlemen, we renew the question: Is is not best to take the back track?

AS A SAMPLE of the way they do things at Harrisburg, and of the corruption against which we are fighting, we give the following: Early in the session of 1868, Mr. Armstrong, of Lancaster county, offered a resolution in the House providing that one hundred dollars should be supplied as an additional compensation to the Clerk. Two amendments thereto were offered by Philadelphia members substituting other names for that of HARRIS. The amendments were voted down, and finally the original resolution was killed by a vote of twenty-five ayes and thirty-five nays. Notwithstanding this disposal of Mr. HARRIS, he appeared at Harrisburg at the close of the session, when he was furnished a certificate as a pastry and folder, and was paid, he, it is authoritatively stated, never having performed the least service in that capacity. This is only one case of twenty or more.

REVOLUTION IN IRON MAKING.

The Ellershausen Process—Practical Tests and Valuable Results.

Some time since several articles appeared in one of our city papers purporting to explain or discuss a new method of manufacturing wrought iron from pig iron, in operation at the works of Messrs. SHOENBERGER, in this city. We have obtained from the parties who have been conducting this new process information on the subject which we herewith present. The essence of the invention or discovery is in the production of a conglomerate of cast iron with metallic oxides. Such a conglomerate is obtained, and can only be obtained, by chilling a thin stream of cast iron in contact with pulverized oxides of iron or other metals while the cast iron is dropped or poured into a receptacle directly from the blast furnace or from a melting furnace, the whole charge of pig iron being then in a few minutes transformed into a conglomerated mass of iron and metallic oxides, or, as it is termed, into "pig blooms." This admixture of molten iron and oxides is made upon a moving table, or by other mechanical arrangements.

As pig iron is usually transformed into wrought iron, it is charged into a puddling furnace in connection with iron ores and mill or forge cinders, the whole being fused together, and the yield and quality of the resulting wrought iron are largely influenced by the quality and character of the metallic oxides. If none are used, the pig iron furnishes its own cinder by its partial oxidation and the consequent waste of iron is great, while its quality is deteriorated as the cinder "seamed, and in contact with the iron, contains in a comparatively small mass all the impurities of the pig iron in the new method the puddling process may be said to be accomplished at once and *made* of the puddling furnace by the intermixture of the pig iron with the metallic oxides—and the subsequent treatment in the puddling furnace is merely heating the conglomerate preparatory to its introduction into the squeezer or rolls for the formation of the bar. The labor of puddler is much reduced and simplified, and the iron produced in a given time is more than doubled, while the consumption of fuel is in correspondence with the time employed. The reactions in the formation of this conglomerate or pig from an substantially the same with those which occur in the puddling furnace where a pig iron is charged. The larger yield of wrought iron from the former, and the superior quality and greater uniformity of the product, are to be attributed to the perfect admixture of the pig iron with the metallic oxides. This complete admixture cannot be accomplished in the ordinary puddling process, as the melted pig iron and oxide and cinders are of unequal gravity, the latter floating on the top of the melted iron. Constant stirring with an iron tool brings about some degree of contact between the iron and the oxides, but it is an imperfect one at best. In the "pig bloom" this admixture has been effected in a manner practically perfect, and it only remains to heat the material in the puddling furnace until it is ready for the hammer or squeezers, as if properly treated in the first instance it does not melt in the furnace. A marked feature in the new method is the attainment of such good quality at the first melting or hammerhead, that the repeated working necessary to reach this with the iron is usually made unnecessary.

Messrs. SHOENBERGER have already manufactured by the process last described some 1,200 tons of iron. The average product from a puddling furnace per turn, with one puddler and his helper, has been 1,900 pounds, but lately, in a more suitable furnace for treating the material, the yield per turn, with same time and number of hands, has been 3,500 pounds, with no greater consumption of fuel than is made at an ordinary puddling furnace, averaging 2,200 pounds.

Of the history of this important invention and its probable influence on the iron world, we shall hereafter speak more fully.

The Montpelier (Vermont) *Journal* argues that the influence of the large Republican majority in the Legislature will be exerted in favor of the election of Senator Morrill, and that the contest will be a short one. The Democrats will not waste their votes on a candidate who has no chance of success.

When claims of this description come to be considered, Pennsylvania will have something to say. Unlike Vermont, this was a doubtful as well as the Keystone State. Both parties chose this for the battle ground. Both strove accordingly, compelling in advance that as Pennsylvania went in October, so would the November battle go. Such a contest was never before known in the history of political warfare. We won, and our victory decided the day for GRANT and Peace. But Pennsylvania claims to special "rewards." She simply did her duty,—but if "rewards" are to be talked about, we simply claim that Pennsylvania shall be considered according to the value of her services.

THE reception given to the Hon. JOHN SCOTT, U. S. Senator elect, in Washington, on Thursday, was attended by DANIEL J. MORRELL, of the Seventeenth Congressional district, Pennsylvania, and not Senator MORRILL, as printed. Senator CAMERON presided, and Speaker COLFAX sat upon the right of Mr. SCOTT. All the Pennsylvania Republican members of the Forty-first Congress were present, and Mr. TOWNSEND member elect from the Seventh district, also the Hon. LEWIS HALL and a few friends from Mr. SCOTT'S home. Mr. SCOTT arrived home in Huntingdon on Saturday evening, when he was serenaded by his fellow citizens, and he returned thanks for the compliment in a brief speech, which is referred to in our special from Huntingdon.

So much feeling has been created in Washington by the attempt to frustrate the incoming administration, by filling the offices with persons nominated to the Senate by ANDREW JOHNSON, in the interest of rings and cliques, that one hundred and sixteen Republican members of the House of Representatives have sent in a request to the Senate to make no more confirmations, except where there are vacancies, before the fourth of March. This is understood to refer specially to the nomination of ALEXANDER CUMMINGS, for whose confirmation Senator CAMERON is making desperate exertions. The well known character of CUMMINGS sufficiently explains the reasons. The attempt will fail.

THE attention of the reader is directed to a report of the brief debate in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, on the resolution to suspend the publication of public documents and abolish the pasters and folders. If anything were needed to open the eyes of the people to the trivial manner in which grave questions are treated by their representatives, and—if this debate is to be taken as criterion—the recklessness of that body, this would certainly do it. The amendment offered by Mr. STRAUB, to abolish the English alphabet, was simply his style of ridiculing the public demand for economy.

THE resolution reported to the Senate by Senator DRAKE, of Missouri, as the unanimous expression of the Committee on the Pacific Railroad, against granting further railroad subsidies, not pledged by existing laws, is a deadly blow to the lobby. It is the immediate effect of the firm stand taken by Gen. GRANT, and the support the people everywhere are giving him. In a certain sense, Gen. GRANT'S administration has been for some time inaugurated.

THE vote of the House of Representatives against the further granting of money subsidies from the Treasury is a substantial victory for economy and reform in the general government. This action is in perfect accord with public sentiment as expressed in the late election, and the manifestation of deference for the public will which our State Legislature would do well to imitate.

IT seems to be understood that the Erie interest have obtained the control of the Fort Wayne stock, and that the same party hold a majority of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh stock, which secures them in possession of the road. It is reported that the added powers that have gained these conquests, will next "go for" the Pennsylvania Central.

KILLED DEAD BY A SINGLE SHOT.—The Inauguration Ball in Washington.

THE EXTRAVAGANCE AT HARRISBURG.

Letter from Hon. George Wilson and His Remarks on Pasters and Folders.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
HARRISBURG, Jan. 28, 1869.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In looking over the columns of your paper of this morning I perceive that I am still misrepresented in respect to my action on the resolution creating additional officers for the House. I seldom undertake to correct the misstatements of the press, but justice to myself demands that the letter of your correspondent, published this morning, should be noticed.

Enclosed you will find my remarks on the subject; you will observe that they are entirely different from those published in your paper. Please publish them.

The paster and folder storm which is attracting so much attention in this State at present, arose from the bid of Rauch & Co., who offered to do the job for $7,000. The members of the House of Representatives did not believe that the offer was made in good faith, the bidders having told members that they did not care whether it was accepted or not.

The mistake of Mr. STRAUB in their remarks on the resolution of Mr. STRONG consists in this: They think that the twenty-seven additional officers, provided for in it, are to be sent to the pasting and folding department. This is not so. The House as organized in accordance with the bill of last winter had but ten pasters and folders at a salary of $600 each, two superintendents at $900, making in all $7,800 as the expense of the pasting and folding. The resolution as the whole expense of the pasting and folding department, for the session of 1868-9, last winter, was $37,000—a saving of $22,000—and yet your correspondent abuses us for extravagance. There have also been appointed some additional Sergeants-at-Arms and door keepers, but the number of contested election cases before as many committees of this House, involving a great deal of labor in handling up and subpœnaing witnesses from the dark holes of Philadelphia, Mr. Speaker, will need for it, the expense of the House for this session will not be as large by several thousands of dollars as it has been during several years last past.

As to the threat of your correspondent, "Lincoln," that "many of the members would be left at home," I have only to say that, if the people of our county think I have not done my duty in the matter of the pasting and folding, my judgment and ability, they have only to replace me with one who in their opinion will represent them better. I shall not demur to their verdict.

Respectfully,
GEORGE WILSON.

The following are the remarks which Mr. Wilson refers to above:

Mr. WILSON—There seems to be a very great cloud of witnesses against this bill, in the shape of pasters and folders, or, at least, if not misapprehended, a misrepresentation. For, I cannot but believe that the members of this House, and all parties having the least regard to candor and fair dealing, will give credit to the statements which have obtained credence through the press and otherwise. Now, what are the facts in relation to the pasting and folding of documents? For the session just closed, costs the State $37,000, just $30,000 more than these gentlemen asked for the same service during the session of the Senate. As this proposition would have doubled the number of pasters and folders, and prevented the members from securing comfortable positions for their friends, no attempt was made.

The Bellefonte *Republican* says: "The press of the State, generally, are severely criticising the Legislature for extravagance in continuing the job of the folders and pasters at an expense of over $30,000. Rauch, of Lancaster, offered to do the work for one-fourth that sum. We join with them in condemning this wasteful provision for the benefit of the friends of the members, and suggest that the true remedy is to have the work done by contract, and given to the lowest responsible bidders, after the notice, and approved security be required for the performance of the work. The Democratic leaders who do not make a serious attempt to bring about this reform will not, as they think, will bear, before long, a species of popular thunder that will be apt to cause them to disappear in terrible style from the political arena."

The Lancaster *Express* of Saturday says: "By the proceedings of the Legislature yesterday it will be seen that the pasting and folding job, which the members of the House thought they had finally settled when they appointed the twenty-seven additional officers, still sits uneasily upon their consciences. Sensible of having failed to satisfy their constituents in the matter of the folders and pasters, they have sought to allay their anxiety by creating twenty-seven more officers, and then conquering it and succeeding to its assets, became responsible for its debts. Is this a question which, by the trickery of Mr. Reverdy Johnson, the United States are to be wheedled into submitting to some one umpire appointed by two British Commissioners, and who may be, for aught we know, a Fenian? Is Mr. Reverdy himself? But should the lot decide that this question is to be decided by the American umpire, the British Commissioners may demand that it be submitted to Napoleon III. or the Pope of Rome, or the Emperor of Dahomey. There is nothing in the treaty to show that the question may not be withdrawn from the Commission and submitted to a foreign potentate after all, as was the question of the Fisheries, which has been passed upon by the umpire selected by themselves.

A Mischance Turned into Good Fortune.

There was not another who became so much a favorite with the passengers as the little child of the Englishman. Its mother was ill and unable to leave her berth, and the little one was left entirely to the care of the stewardess. She was wholly unfitted for such a charge, and the child was frequently left entirely to itself. Once, when the ship was rolling and pitching in a heavy gale, the little one was